



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5589

January Session, 2003

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS
AND TERMINATION OF LOCAL BOARDS BY ORDINANCE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the
2 provisions of any special act or sections 7-324 to 7-329, inclusive, of the
3 general statutes, any district established by special act may, by
4 majority of the voters present at the annual meeting or any special
5 meeting of the district called in accordance with the provisions of such
6 special act, provide for the following: (1) An increase in the number of
7 commissioners from three to five, (2) a thirty-day notice period to
8 electors by persons intending to run for commissioner and for any
9 issue to be placed on the ballot at the annual meeting, and (3) voting
10 by voting machine from six o'clock a.m. to six o'clock p.m.

11 Sec. 2. Section 7-192 of the general statutes is repealed and the
12 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

13 (a) Every charter, special act and home rule ordinance in effect on
14 October 1, 1982, shall continue in effect until repealed or superseded
15 by the adoption of a charter, charter amendments or home rule
16 ordinance amendments in accordance with this chapter, the provisions
17 in any charter in existence on said date governing revision or
18 amendment to the contrary notwithstanding. Nothing in this section
19 shall prohibit the adoption of a revised home rule ordinance or home

20 rule ordinance amendments by any method established in such home
21 rule ordinance if the provisions concerning such method were in effect
22 on July 15, 1959. Any municipality administering its local affairs under
23 the provisions of the general statutes or special acts adopted prior to
24 said date may continue to so administer its local affairs until the
25 electors of such municipality avail themselves of the provisions of this
26 chapter. Any municipality having as its organic law a home rule
27 ordinance or a revised or amended home rule ordinance shall after any
28 revision or amendment of such ordinance publish, in a single
29 document, any such home rule ordinance and shall make such
30 ordinance available at a nominal cost to any member of the public.

31 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
32 the provisions of any special act relative to the number of holders of an
33 office, or members of a board, commission, department or agency of a
34 municipality (1) which does not administer its affairs under a charter,
35 and (2) for which the legislative body, as defined in section 1-1, is a
36 town meeting may be superseded by adoption of a municipal
37 ordinance that is not otherwise inconsistent with the Constitution of
38 the state or the general statutes.

39 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
40 any consolidated town and city which (1) was consolidated after 1900, (2)
41 has a mayor and board of aldermen form of government, and (3) has a
42 population of more than one hundred thousand may terminate a board
43 established by special act in such consolidated town upon majority
44 vote of the board of aldermen. The clerk of any such consolidated town
45 and city shall notify the Secretary of the State of such termination not
46 more than ten days after such vote.

47 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
48 any municipality which (1) administers its affairs under a charter and
49 for which the legislative body is a town meeting, and (2) has a
50 population of less than twelve thousand may terminate a board
51 established in the municipality by special act by adoption of an
52 ordinance that is not otherwise inconsistent with the Constitution of

53 the state or the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>

PD *Joint Favorable Subst.*